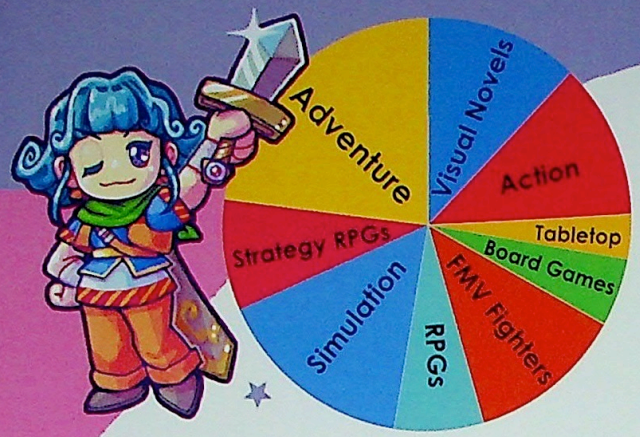
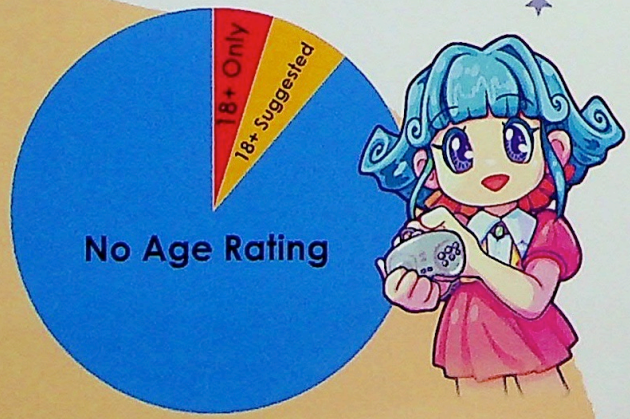
PC-FX Game Genres



Out of the 60+ retail games released, the library is primarily made up of narrative-driven genres such as RPGs, visual novels, and simulation games. A number of anime-focused digital magazines also appeared.

Adult Games on PC-FX

Like Saturn and 3DO, its library contains only a small number of 18+ titles. However, with a focus on older players, several titles contain PG-13-esque suggestive content.



The PC-FX Fan Club

We're a YouTube Channel dedicated to providing a holistic view of NEC's PC-FX home console by exploring the market trends that led to its creation, successes, and failures.

Join the PC-FX Fan Club!

Scan the above QR code for links to follow, subscribe, and support the PC-FX Fan Club.

Our Discord group is a hub for PC-FX discussions, including games, hardware, homebrew, research, contemporary 90s Japanese culture, gaming trends, and more!

You must be 18 or older to join our Discord.

Pamphlet Credits

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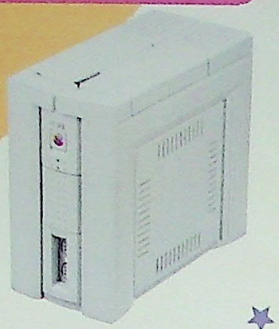
Anniversary Logo: Netverk

PC-FX 30TH ANNIVERSARY

NEC's PC-FX Revisited

What is the PC-FX?



The PC-FX is NEC's Japan-only successor to the PC-Engine, released in 1994. It leveraged high quality full-motion video to capture the look and feel of TV anime.

Who Played the PC-FX?

In Japan, there was a growing demand for games focused on story and attractive characters. NEC targeted these players by prioritizing voice acting and full-motion video, enhancing their immersion in these worlds.

This approach led to an audience overlap with anime and idol culture, heavily influencing the types of software released.

PC-FX & the Console Wars

The mid-90s was a transformative time in the console gaming industry. No one knew what new technologies were crucial to success. Unlike its competitors who focused on 3D, the PC-FX pursued providing the highest quality video playback. In hindsight, its limited 3D support and high price curbed its success.

SEGA, an underdog in the Japanese market, made moves that may have directly targeted the PC-FX's primary consumer. Sega Saturn titles like Sakura Wars likely cannibalized the PC-FX's reach to a larger audience.

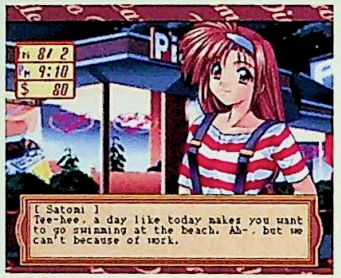
Games You Can Play

Most PC-FX games require a significant level of Japanese reading skills. Here are some English-friendly games you can try out!

Welcome to Pia Carrot! (18+)

Fan translation by David Michel and Matt La France

Enjoy your summer vacation to the fullest by managing your time. As you uncover story events across multiple short playthroughs, new paths emerge as you get to know and fall in love with each character.



Chōshin Heiki Zeroigar

Fan translation by SamIAm, Elmer and Esteban

This shmup is one of the few action games on the system, albeit tuned to the PC-FX audience's taste. It focuses on narrative and has a leveling system that allows players to improve their stats and equip new weapons.

Other Import Friendly Games

Partial Translation

Ruruli Ra Rura

Farland Story FX

No Translation

Chip Chan Kick! (Suggestive Content)

Kishin Dōji Zenki FX: Vajra Fight

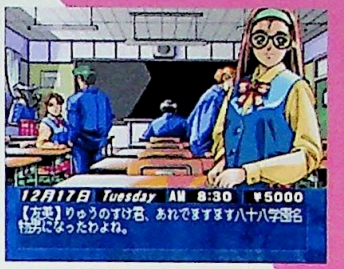
Super Power League FX

Games That Defined PC-FX

The PC-FX's Japan-centric nature can make it challenging to understand what games were popular on the system and why. Here are some key software titles.

Dōkyūsei 2 (18+)

This dating sim is the best-selling title on PC-FX, showing the popular demand from its user base for games of this style.



Tengai Makyō III

The reveal of the third entry in the popular Tengai Makyō RPG series drove early interest in the system before the game was canceled.

Angelique Series

This romance series aimed at women defined the modern otome genre. It found a home on the system with four titles released.

Der Langrisser

Ports to the PC-FX, like Langrisser II's, added anime cutscenes and voice acting to enhance their sprite-based worlds.